

Executive Office of Public Safety Newsletter, November 2006



The Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

EOPS Funding Opportunities

Commonwealth Security Trust Fund Grant Program

Application Deadline: November 29, 2006

The Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) is pleased to announce the availability of funding through the Commonwealth Security Trust Fund (CSTF) for fiscal year 2007. The funds are intended to enhance response to emergencies, including acts of terrorism. The CSTF Grant Program is highly competitive, with an anticipated 15 awards of approximately \$20,000. Municipalities should apply on behalf of police and fire departments.

For more information: <http://www.mass.gov/eopsfunding>

Click on Law Enforcement

Other Funding Opportunities

Body Armor for Law Enforcement and Corrections

Application Deadline: November 17, 2006

“The National Institute of Justice is seeking proposals to develop, test, evaluate, and demonstrate technologies in the area of soft body armor (armor with an areal density of 1.1 pounds per square foot or less). Specific areas of interest include: advanced ballistic resistant materials, nondestructive evaluation of soft body armor, soft body armor area of coverage, life cycle exposure protocols and equipment for ballistic resistant body armor, advanced soft body armor designs, and cooling technologies for wearers of body armor.”

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000764.pdf>

Less Lethal Technologies

Application Deadline: November 20, 2006

“The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking applications for funding new or improved less lethal technology devices that will minimize the risk of death and injury to public safety officers, suspects, detainees, and the public. NIJ is interested in fostering the development of innovative devices, concepts, studies, and techniques to help officers more safely meet these needs. New technologies or concepts should be intrinsically safe, have predictable effects on people, and have the ability to compensate for operational and environmental factors.”

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000754.pdf>

Contents

Funding Opportunities

- Commonwealth Security Trust Fund Grant Program (EOPS)
- Body Armor for Law Enforcement and Corrections (NIJ)
- Less Lethal Technologies (NIJ)
- 2007 NCVRW Community Awareness Project Funding (OVC)
- Information-Led Policing Research, Technology Development, Testing, and Evaluation (NIJ)
- Graduate Research Fellowship 2007 (NIJ)
- Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management (BJA)
- Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (BJA)
- Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program (BJA)
- Outcome Evaluation of Weed and Seed (JRSA)
- Crime and Justice Research (NIJ)
- FY 2007 Weed and Seed Communities Competitive Program Guide and Application Kit (CCDO)

Research and Publications

- Hate Crime, 2005 (FBI)
- Federal Prosecution of Human Trafficking, 2001-2005 (BJS)
- The Role of Law Enforcement in Public Health Emergencies: Special Considerations for an All-Hazards Approach (BJA)
- Drug Use and Dependence, State and Federal Prisoners, 2004 (BJS)
- Assaults In and Around Bars, 2nd Edition (COPS)

Conferences and Trainings

- 5th New England Rural Domestic Violence Forum (MA DPH)
- The State of Crime and Justice in America (BJA)
- Innovations in Justice, Information Sharing Strategies and Best Practices (BJA)

2007 NCVRW Community Awareness Project Funding

Application Deadline: November 20, 2006

“The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA), through a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), is offering funding to aid up to 60 communities in conducting public awareness initiatives during National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW). Communities will each be awarded up to \$5,000 in reimbursement for activities designed to enhance the public's awareness of crime victims' rights and services. Public agencies, nonprofit organizations, community-based victim service organizations, faith-based organizations, tribal organizations, and community coalitions committed to advocating for the rights and services of crime victims are among those encouraged to apply.”

For more information: <http://cap.navaa.org>

In the News

- Lowell Chief Set to Lead Boston Police
- New Orleans Anticrime Panel Gets Advice From Boston, NYC
- Mayors Meet To Discuss Antigun Strategies
- MA Program Helps Some New Inmate Mothers

Information-Led Policing Research, Technology Development, Testing, and Evaluation

Application Deadline: November 24, 2006

“The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) seeks projects that improve on existing information and data technologies or develop new and innovative solutions for criminal justice application. Proof-of-concept projects are also welcome, particularly if the product developed as a result of the concept could be quickly made available to the law enforcement field. NIJ is specifically interested in concepts for development in one of the following areas related to information-led policing: identity matching and entity resolution, sharing positive identification information (e.g., photos, fingerprints, etc.), implementing Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM)-based messaging for law enforcement, data analysis tools for multidiscipline data sharing systems, alert system mechanism to notify law enforcement agencies of “hits”.”

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000769.pdf>

Graduate Research Fellowship 2007

Application Deadline: November 28, 2006

“The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking applicants for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program, an NIJ annual program that provides dissertation research support to outstanding doctoral students undertaking independent research on issues related to crime and justice. Students from any academic discipline are encouraged to apply and propose original research that has direct implications for criminal justice. NIJ encourages diversity in approaches and perspectives in its research programs.”

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/SL000747.pdf>

Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management

Application Deadline: December 7, 2006

“The Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management (CASOM) Discretionary Grant Program provides funding to help jurisdictions effectively manage sex offenders in the community by implementing new or enhancing existing programs. Programs need to increase public safety and reduce victimization. Although CASOM focuses on the continuum of activities and services for sex offenders, grant funds must be targeted for community reintegration and community management of these offenders, not for institutional services. Local, state, and tribal communities who are interested in addressing the management of juvenile, adult, or a mixed population of sex offenders are eligible to apply for this grant program.”

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/casom.html>

Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

Application Deadline: December 12, 2006

“The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHC) was created by the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2004 in response to requests from state government officials to recommend improvements to the criminal justice system's response to people with mental illness. The purpose of the program is to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems to increase access to treatment for this unique group of offenders. Applicants are limited to states, units of local government, Indian tribes, and tribal organizations, which must apply jointly with a mental health agency.”

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/JMHCprogram.html>

Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program

Application Deadline: December 14, 2006

“The Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program, previously administered by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), is now being administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), a component of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice. The G.R.E.A.T. Program is a school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curriculum. The program's primary objective is prevention and is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. G.R.E.A.T. lessons focus on providing life skills to students to help them avoid delinquent behavior and violence to solve problems. Applicants are limited to state, local, or tribal jurisdictions or their respective law enforcement agencies, including: school police, housing authority police, prosecution, probation, and parole agencies possessing the power of arrest.”

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/07GREATsol.pdf>

Outcome Evaluation of Weed and Seed

Deadline to Submit Intent to Respond Form: November 22, 2006

Deadline to Submit Written Questions Regarding RFP: December 1, 2006

Application Deadline: December 29, 2006

“The Justice Research and Statistics Association, in performance of work awarded under a cooperative agreement by the U.S. Department of Justice, Community Capacity Development Office, is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for an evaluation of the National Weed and Seed Strategy. The overarching goal of the Weed and Seed strategy is to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity; however, sites vary in terms of the specific problems that they address and the strategies they employ to address them. The national evaluator will work closely with JRSA and CCDO as it refines the evaluation design to account for variations in problems and strategies among the Weed and Seed sites.”

For more information: <http://www.weedandseed.info/docs/eval-solicitation.pdf>

Crime and Justice Research

Application Deadline: January 23, 2007

“The Crime and Justice Research solicitation is the National Institute of Justice’s “open” solicitation for social and behavioral research and evaluation on topics relevant to State or local criminal and juvenile justice policy and practice. Most crime and justice topics that are relevant to policymakers and practitioners are eligible for consideration. For evaluation research, funding priority will be given to applications proposing randomized experimental designs, regression discontinuity, propensity scores, or other enhanced quasi-experimental designs that maximize the validity and reliability of research results.”

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000765.pdf>

FY 2007 Weed and Seed Communities Competitive Program Guide and Application Kit

Application Deadline: January 31, 2007

“The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding the Weed and Seed Communities Competitive Program (for new applicants only). The Weed and Seed initiative is a community-based, comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and neighborhood restoration. It is designed for neighborhoods with persistent high levels of serious violent crime and corresponding social problems.”

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/ws/2007guideIn.html>

Research and Publications

Hate Crime, 2005

This report, published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, includes data from hate crime reports submitted by city, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies throughout the Nation in 2005. This annual report includes data on incidents, offenses, victims, and offenders in reported crimes that were motivated in whole or in part by a bias against the victim's perceived race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability.

Access full text at: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm>

Federal Prosecution of Human Trafficking, 2001-2005

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report includes Federal criminal case processing statistics on peonage and slavery statutes in the U.S. criminal code with a focus on human trafficking offenses created by Congress in the Trafficking in Victims Protection Act of 2000. National data on the number and type of human trafficking offenders referred to and prosecuted by U.S. attorneys is presented. Specific human trafficking cases are described, including number of convictions and types of sentences imposed.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/fpht05.htm>

The Role of Law Enforcement in Public Health Emergencies: Special Considerations for an All-Hazards Approach

This recently released Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) report discusses the key concerns that law enforcement officials must address in preparation for a virus-caused pandemic and other public health emergencies. Also discussed are issues that may arise in the department's "all-hazards" approach. The main topic areas discussed in the report are: (1) preparing the department (e.g., maintaining operational continuity), (2) protecting the officers (e.g., educating them about transmission, vaccination, and treatment), and (3) protecting the community (e.g., maintaining public order).

Access full text at: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pdf/role_law_enforce.pdf

Drug Use and Dependence, State and Federal Prisoners, 2004

This Bureau of Justice Statistics recently released report presents data from the 2004 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities on prisoners' prior use, dependence, and abuse of illegal drugs. Analysis includes levels of drug use, type of drugs used, and treatment reported by State and Federal prisoners since the last national survey was conducted in 1997. Data on measures of dependence and abuse by gender, race, Hispanic origin, and age is presented. Levels of prior drug use, dependence, and abuse by selected characteristics (such as family background, criminal record, type of drug used, and offense) are also discussed.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/dudsf04.htm>

Assaults In and Around Bars, 2nd Edition

This Office of Community Policing (COPS) guide explains the link between alcohol and violence according to physiological, social, and situational effects. The guide will help law enforcement to prevent and improve the overall response to assaults that occur in and around bars. Also included are: factors that increase the risk of assaults in and around bars, tips for analyzing your local problem, and responses to the problem and findings from evaluative research and police practice.

Access full text at: <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/mime/open.pdf?Item=271>

Conferences and Trainings

5th New England Rural Domestic Violence Forum

November 14-15, 2006 in Northampton, MA

This event, sponsored by the Massachusetts Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Project, will provide opportunities for critical thinking about emerging issues, networking and problem solving. Session topics include: innovative community engagement strategies to end family violence, trauma informed practice: working with survivors with mental health and substance abuse challenges, secondary traumatic stress and self care, and economic empowerment for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. For more information contact the Massachusetts Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Project of the MA Department of Public Health at 413-586-7525 and ask for Amy Waldman or Jessica Grasmere.

The State of Crime and Justice in America

November 27-29, 2006 in Nashville, TN

December 4-6, 2006 in Phoenix, AZ

January 8-10, 2007 in Columbus, OH

January 25-26, 2007 in Baltimore, MD

This Bureau of Justice Assistance conference brings together practitioners, policy makers, and BJA leadership to explore critical issues in law enforcement and criminal justice. Session topics include: human trafficking, sex offender management, pandemic, gangs, meth, homicide clearance, identity theft/white collar crime, public surveillance, counter-terrorism, problem solving courts (drug, family, mentally ill), information sharing, and law enforcement leadership.

For more information: <http://www.ncja.org/Content/NavigationMenu/EducationEvents/BJARegionalMeetingSeries/default.htm>

Innovations in Justice, Information Sharing Strategies and Best Practices

November 28-30, 2006 in San Diego, CA

February 6-8, 2007 in Houston, TX

March 27-29, 2007 in Minneapolis, MN

June 4-6, 2007 in Jacksonville, FL

This Bureau of Justice Assistance conference will help participants explore, and better understand how to plan, manage, and implement technology solutions for information sharing systems. Experts will discuss the latest innovative solutions in justice and public safety information sharing, including key developments in: information sharing policy, privacy and security, coordinating broad-based information sharing initiatives, U.S. Department of Justice Global Justice XML Data Model implementation, and latest technologies and standards.

For more information: <http://www.search.org/conferences/2006reginfosharing/>

In The News

Lowell Chief Set to Lead Boston Police

***The Boston Globe*, October 23, 2006**

Lowell, MA, Police Superintendent Edward Davis, a strong proponent of community policing, will be Boston's next police commissioner, reports *the Boston Globe*. Lowell's violent crime is down more than 50 percent and is being attributed to Davis pushing officers to walk beats. Davis will take over a department nearly 10 times larger than the Lowell department when he assumes the position in Boston. Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/10/23/lowell_chief_set_to_lead_boston_police/?page=2

New Orleans Anticrime Panel Gets Advice From Boston, NYC

***New Orleans Times-Picayune*, October 25, 2006**

According to the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, members of an anti-violence committee, formed by the New Orleans branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, visited Boston and New York City to learn about successful strategies for tackling violence. The experts consulted agreed that the effort would require extraordinary cooperation. Local, federal, and state law enforcement agencies, probation departments, the correctional system, the courts, government, social workers, schools, churches and neighborhoods must all work together in order to help at-risk youth. Access full text at: <http://www.nola.com/news/t-p/frontpage/index.ssf?/base/news-6/116149710856910.xml&coll=1&thispage=1>

Mayors Meet To Discuss Antigun Strategies

***USA Today*, October 26, 2006**

According to *USA Today*, a coalition of mayors will meet in Chicago to talk about strategies for fighting illegal guns and for winning tougher gun laws. New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino organized the group in April which includes 109 cities in 44 states. Mayors say they struggle to stem the flow of guns from states with lax gun laws. The upcoming meeting will include a discussion of strategies to get guns off the street. Access full text at: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-10-25-mayors-guns_x.htm

MA Program Helps Some New Inmate Mothers

***Boston Herald*, October 31, 2006**

According to the *Boston Herald*, every year the Massachusetts state prison for women at Framingham admits over 150 pregnant women. In the last three years, 107 women have given birth while behind bars. This program allows infants up to 2 years to live with their mothers while the women complete substance-abuse counseling, parenting and nurturing classes and search for housing and employment for after their release. The program reunites woman with their children while giving them support and encouragement to succeed.

Access full text at: <http://news.bostonherald.com/localRegional/view.bg?articleid=164642>

Contact Information

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